

# Uthai Thani







*Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary*

## CONTENTS

<b>HOW TO GET THERE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ATTRACTIONS</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani</i>	6
<i>Amphoe Nong Khayang</i>	13
<i>Amphoe Nong Chang</i>	14
<i>Amphoe Thap Than</i>	14
<i>Amphoe Sawang Arom</i>	15
<i>Amphoe Lan Sak</i>	16
<i>Amphoe Huai Khot</i>	20
<i>Amphoe Ban Rai</i>	21
<b>EVENTS &amp; FESTIVALS</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>LOCAL PRODUCTS AND SOUVENIRS</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>INTERESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>31</b>
<i>Agro-tourism</i>	31
<b>EXAMPLES OF TOUR PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>FACILITIES IN UTHAI THANI</b>	<b>32</b>
<i>Accommodations</i>	32
<i>Restaurants</i>	34
<b>USEFUL CALLS</b>	<b>36</b>





*Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri*

**UTHAI THANI**

Uthai Thani is located in the Lower North, covering an area of 6,730 square kilometres. The topography mostly includes forests and high mountains. Uthai Thani's forest lands are fertile with natural biodiversity; therefore, one wildlife sanctuary, Huai Kha Khaeng, has been registered as a World Heritage Site. For the pride of all Thais, these forest lands should be conserved and maintained.

In some parts of the province, evidence proves that it used to be the habitation sites of pre-historical humans and the locations of ancient cities, such as Mueang Boran Bueng Khok Chang in the Dvaravati period, Mueang Boran Ban Tai, Mueang Boran Ban Khu Mueang, and Mueang Boran Ka Rung.

According to legend, during the Sukhothai Period, Thao Mahaphrom built a city at Ban Uthai Kao (Amphoe Nong Chang) and brought Thai people to settle among the Karen and Mon villages. The place was called "Mueang U-Thai" after the group or location of the Thai people. Later, a drought changed the path of the stream, and the people left the city. In the Ayutthaya Period, a Karen named "Phataboet" came to repair Mueang U-Thai by excavating a lake near the city and he was the first ruler of the Old Mueang U-Thai. After that, the name of the city was changed to Mueang Uthai, according to the Karen accent and it was an external outpost town, defending the city from the Burmese army which would attack Ayutthaya. During the early Rattanakosin Period, there was an increase in immigration of people to settle along the Sakae Krang Riverside and it became the location of the city of Uthai Thani until now.

Uthai Thani has many interesting natural, historical, and archaeological attractions,

where tourists can visit and learn a lot of things. There are also shops selling handmade souvenirs and various kinds of food, such as Nomai Ruak, fish and rice crisps, preserved fruits; woven cloth, and basketry. Uthai Thani have divided into 8 districts: Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani, Amphoe Nong Khayang, Amphoe Thap Than, Amphoe Nong Chang, Amphoe Sawang Arom, Amphoe Huai Khot, Amphoe Lan Sak, Amphoe Ban Rai.

## BOUNDARIES

- North: Amphoe Phayuha Khiri,  
Amphoe Krok Phra,  
and Amphoe Lat Yao of Nakhon Sawan
- South: Amphoe Wat Sing  
and Amphoe Hankha of Chai Nat,  
and Amphoe Doem Bang Nang Buat  
of Suphan Buri
- East: Amphoe Phayuha Khiri of  
Nakhon Sawan and Amphoe  
Manorom of Chai Nat, bounded by  
the Chao Phraya River
- West: Amphoe Umphang of Tak,  
Amphoe Sangkhla Buri  
and Amphoe Si Sawat of  
Kanchanaburi

## HOW TO GET THERE

### *By car:*

From Bangkok, Uthai Thani is accessible by many routes as follows:

1. Take Phahonyothin Road, passing Saraburi, Amphoe Khok Samrong of Lop Buri, Amphoe Takhli of Nakhon Sawan, and Amphoe Manorom of Chai Nat. Cross the Chao Phraya River by car ferry at Amphoe Manorom, passing Wat Tha Sung (Wat Chantharam), the city hall, and Uthai Thani Market, a total distance of

approximately 305 km.

2. Take Highway No. 32 (Asia Highway), passing Ayutthaya, Ang Thong, Sing Buri, and Chai Nat. Turn left at the Tha Nam Oi Intersection near (Km.) 206 and drive into Highway 333, crossing the Chao Phraya River Bridge for a distance of approximately 16 km. After passing the hospital, turn left into the Uthai Thani Market. The total distance is about 222 km.

3. From Highway No. 32 (Asia Highway), pass Ayutthaya and turn left at Km. 30 into Highway 334. Then, take Highway No. 309 and drive along to cross the Ang Thong Bridge. Take Route 311, passing Sing Buri and Amphoe Sapphaya of Chai Nat, and turn into Highway 3183 to get to the provincial city, a total distance of approximately 283 km.

### **By Bus:**

The Transport Company Ltd. provides both non air-conditioned and air-conditioned buses from Bangkok to Uthai Thani everyday from the Bangkok Northern Bus Terminal (Mochit 2), taking about 4 hours. Buses are available from 4.30 a.m. - 5.50 p.m. For more details, please contact Tel: 0 2936 2852-66, or [www.transport.co.th](http://www.transport.co.th), or the Uthai Thani Bus Station at Tel: 0 5651 1058, 0 5651 1914, or 0 5651 2859.

In addition, buses from Uthai Thani to Nakhon Sawan, Suphan Buri, and Nakhon Pathom are also provided.

### **By Train:**

Take a train and get off at Nakhon Sawan Station; then, take a bus to Uthai Thani for about 50 km. For further details, please contact the Travelling Service Unit, Bangkok Railway Station at Tel: 1690 or 0 2220 4334 or [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th).

To travel inside the city, there is a Song Thaeo, two-rowed cars, and buses available on many

routes, such as Uthai Thani - Nong Chang, Uthai Thani - Wat Sing, Uthai Thani - Ban Rai, Lan Sak - Sawang Arom - Thap Than, and Ban Rai - Khlong Haeng, etc.

## **Distances from Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani to other districts**

Amphoe Nong Khayang	10 kilometres
Amphoe Thap Than	19 kilometres
Amphoe Nong Chang	22 kilometres
Amphoe Sawang Arom	33 kilometres
Amphoe Huai Khot	45 kilometres
Amphoe Lan Sak	57 kilometres
Amphoe Ban Rai	80 kilometres

## **ATTRACTIONS**

### **Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani**

#### **Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri (วัดสังกัสรัตนคีรี)**

is located at the foot of Khao Sakae Krang, at the end of Tha Chang Road in the Mueang Municipality area. Phra Phutthamongkhon Saksit, the Buddha image of Uthai Thani, is situated inside a wihan. It was told that in the reign of King Rama I, the king ordered to take medium-sized dilapidated Buddha images to various outpost towns. Uthai Thani received 3 images, which were brought by raft to get to the Tha Phra Pier (opposite the Community Hall of Uthai Thani), then it was situated at Wat Khwit. One large Buddha image was made of bronze, in a gesture of subduing Mara, with a lap width of 3 cubits. It was built in the reign of King Lithai by Sukhothai craftsmen. The head and the body were from different images. It was assumed that the Buddha image was repaired before being brought to Uthai Thani. Then, after Wat Khwit was merged with Wat Thung Kaeo, the image was moved to Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri, 1 km. from the city. There was a

ceremony to put Lord Buddha's relics into the head of the image and it was given a new name, "Phra Phutthamongkhon Saksit". On the first day of the waning moon of the eleventh lunar month (End of Buddhist Lent) every year, a ceremony known as "Tak Bat Thewo" will be held. On that day, about 500 monks will walk down the stairs from the top of Khao Sakae Krang to receive alms offerings from the people at the temple court, which is one major tradition of the province. *To get there:* From downtown, use Tha Chang Road until the end, on the left is "Phra Phutthamongkhon Saksit", on the right is the stairs lead to Khao Sakae Krang.

### **Khao Sakae Krang** (เขาสะแกกรัง)

is a mountain where you can use stairs from the temple court of Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri to climb up to the top. Otherwise, take Highway No. 3220 for 4 km. Pass the provincial stadium and drive along the route to the top of the mountain where you can admire the beautiful panoramic sights of Uthai Thani. It houses the replica of Lord Buddha's footprint, built in 1905 and moved from Wat Chantharam. In front of the mondop, there is a large bell which was constructed by Phra Palat Chai and the people of Uthai Thani in 1900. It is believed to be a holy bell which all tourists coming to Uthai Thani should not miss to tap.

Near the mondop on top of the mountain, there is a statue of Somdet Phrapathom Borommahachanoknat or the Royal Father of King Rama I, whose name of birth was Thongdi. Later, he was designated to be Phra Akson Sunthonsat, a chief clerk of the Interior Department. In the Ayutthaya era, he was Chaophraya Chakri Si Ongkharak. After that, in the Rattanakosin era, King Rama I (who was formerly called Thongduang) promoted



*Wat Mani Sathit Kapittharam*

the relics of his father to be Somdet Phra Chanakathipbodi in 1795.

The Statue of King Rama I's Royal Father was cast in double life size, sitting on a seat. In his left hand, a sword of the position of Chaophraya Chakri is kept in the sheath and put on the left thigh. The statue puts its right hand on the right thigh. On his right, there is a Phra Mala Sao Sung, a royal hat without Yi Ka (bird feather), placed on a footed tray. He wears sandals. There is a ceremony to pay respect to the statue on 6 April of every year, at the same period when Suphannika or Fai Kham – yellow cotton trees, the symbolic flower of Uthai Thani, bloom all over Khao Sakae Krang.

In the forest behind the mountain, approximately 200 metres from the statue, there is a world map pin, a tool for mapping, which was built in 1932.

### **Wat Mani Sathit Kapittharam** (วัดมณีสิทธิ กปิฐาราม)

is located on Sunthon Sathit Road, behind the health garden, at the Clock Tower Circle. This temple was constructed in the Rattanakosin

period, and local people call it Wat Thung Kaeo. Inside the temple, there is a large five-pinnaced prang, with a width of 8 metres and a height of 16 metres, which was built in 1909. The prang contains the relics of Lord Buddha and the image of Luangpho Yaem who constructed this temple. In the area of the temple, there is a large holy water pool made of bricks and a stone tablet with magic scripts of Luangpho Yaem located in the middle of the pool. Its water was once used to bathe the king in the coronation ceremony of King Rama VI and King Rama VII.

### **Wat Thammakhosok or Wat Rong Kho**

(วัดธรรมโฆสะ หรือวัดโรงโค)

is located on Si Uthai Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, near the municipal market. It used to be the place to hold the ceremony of drinking the Oath of Allegiance to the king by Uthai Thani's aristocrats and a place to operate a death penalty. This temple was built in the early Rattanakosin period. In the ordination hall, there are the most beautiful mural paintings in Uthai Thani, assumed to be made by Ayutthayan craftsmen who had lived since the end of the Ayutthaya era. The paintings depict the scenes when Lord Buddha came from the Daowadueng (Tavatimsa) Heaven and when he defeated Mara. On top of the side walls, there are paintings of a gathering of gods, switching with the Phat Yot, a long-handled fan given to a monk by the king as a rank insignia. The outside window frames are accented with stucco reliefs. The wihan's base is higher than the ordination hall's and has a gable depicting a three-headed elephant. Inside the wihan, some 20 Buddha images are neatly arranged. Its outside window frames are decorated with stucco reliefs depicting scenes from the Ramakian - Thai version of the Ramayana. The attractive

wihan's door panels are made of wood with a red sculpted floral pattern. There are a few prangs and pagodas near the ordination hall and wihan.

The boundary wall surrounding the ordination hall is linked to the wihan's base which is higher. The entrance archway is made in the Chinese style; the back and front of the ordination hall feature a niche housing a Buddha image. A small monk's abode is connected to the wall of the ordination hall, made by Ayutthayan craftsmen. The ordination hall's door panels sculpted by early Rattanakosin craftsmen, have a decorative pattern of flowers and Krachang leaves. The background of the panels are painted red, so it is assumed that the pattern itself might have originally been painted gold. The window frames have the same decoration. To visit the ordination hall, please contact in advance at Tel: 05651 1450. Wat Thammakhosok has already been registered as a national ancient monument.

### **Sakae Krang River** (ลำน้ำสะแกกรัง)

flows through the city of Uthai Thani. It is told that in the past, any traders who took a boat along this way could know suddenly when they reached Ban Sakae Krang, especially from around January to March, because it was the time when Sakae - *Combretum quadrangulare* Kurz - flowers bloomed and lay its yellowish green bunches down to the riverside. There are raft-houses along both sides of the river. On the west bank, there are many houses and a large market where local people sell home-made agricultural products which they plant and produce by themselves, as well as food and desserts. The east side covers Ko Thepho, fruit orchards and a natural bamboo forest. The raft-houses along both sides of the river are





*Sakae Krang River*

made of wood, built on Phae Luk Buap, a kind of bamboo raft.

Most of the people who live in the raft-houses are fishermen. They catch fish, gut and pin them with wooden sticks. After that, they dry, grill and smoke, and sell those fish at the market. In addition, in each raft-house there is Krachang, a hinged basket, to keep Pla Sawai - striped catfish, Pla Raet - giant gourami, and Pla Thepho - black ear catfish.

The serene picture of the way of life along the Sakae Krang River is great to see. Visitors can take a boat to admire the beautiful view around Ko Thepho. It is recommended that you take a boat at 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. to see the sunset which is very splendid.

### **Trip along Sakae Krang River** (เรือล่องแม่น้ำสะแกกรัง)

Tourist can rent a long tailed-boat for 10-12



*Trip along Sakae Krang River*

passengers cost 250-800 baht depend on distances. Contact Khun Chalongs Tel: 08 9859 9394. The cruise for 40 passengers cost 4,000 baht exclude dinner operate 4.00 p.m.-7.00 p.m., contact Khun Weera Bamrungsri, Uthai

River Lake Co., Tel: 08 1830 065, 08 6577 7781. A kayak rental each of which costs 10-30 Baht/ hour. Get on the boat at Lan Suphannika, opposite the city hall, on Si Uthai Road, Tambon Uthai Mai. Make a boat reservation with the Uthai Thani Provincial Government Organization at Tel: 0 5651 1444.

### **Ko Thepho** (เกาะเทพโผ)

was formerly a cape between the Chao Phraya River and Sakae Krang River, which met together at the south of the cape. Later, a canal was excavated to link both rivers in the northern part in order that the water from the Chao Phraya River will add to the Sakae Krang River in case of lack of rain. This cape therefore became Ko Thepho.

Ko Thepho is an interesting point for travellers who love cycling. The journey on the isle starts after you cross a bridge which links between the municipal fresh market and Wat Uposatharam. The bridge is not so long and quite narrow since it provides a small lane for only two motorcycles. Along both sides of the road, there is a bamboo forest, corn and rice field, with a peaceful, shady atmosphere. Local people here earn a living by planting "Manorom" and "Khao Taeng Kwa" pomelo, and Mafai.

When visitors pass Ban Tha Din Daeng, they can see people selling Suea Lamphan, a mat made of bamboo, in front of their houses, not at the market. If travelling to Wat Phum Tham, it is possible to see a recreation hall with a serene atmosphere. After finishing cycling and reaching the end of the marked route, they will arrive at the pier to cross to Tha Sung. The total distance of the cycling route on this isle is 33 km.

Tourists can contact Khun Prasong Srimueang to ask for a map of Ko Thepho and the city of

Uthai Thani. Also attend the Uthai Thani Cycling for Health Club (Charoen Chakayan Shop) 101-102 Tha Chang Road, Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani, Tel: 05651 1991 everyday. Tambon Hat Tha Nong Administration Office provides bicycles rental 40 baht/ day, call 08 6216 3510.

### **Wat Uposatharam** (วัดอุโปสถาราม)

formerly named Wat Bot Manorom (วัดโบสถ์มโนรมย์), is sometimes called Wat Bot. It is an old temple on the Sakae Krang Riverside, on Ko Thepho, in the Mueang Municipality area. From the municipal fresh market, cross the bridge to the temple which is on the east side of the river. The interesting things to see include mural paintings in the ordination hall and wihan, which were made in the early Rattanakosin era. The paintings in the ordination hall were elaborately made, depicting the biography of Lord Buddha from the time when he was born until he died. In the wihan, there are paintings of Lord Buddha, preaching to gods in Heaven and the scene when he was resolving to enter nirvana. On the upper part of the wall, there is a picture of a gathering of monks, switching with Phat Yot, a long-handled fan of an ecclesiastical rank, which seems to show respect to the principal Buddha image. On the outside wall in front of the wihan, there is a picture of Lord Buddha's cremation and the picture of villagers' ways of life along the Buddhist concepts. It is believed to have been made by craftsmen of a later time. In addition, inside Wat Uposatharam, there are other interesting things to see, such as Sema, a leaf-like boundary sign made of red stone, in front of the ordination hall, a cabinet to keep Buddhist scriptures and a storage closet painted with the floral Kanok vine pattern. In addition, there is a Bat, a monk alms-bowl, with the lid decorated with mother-of-pearl

inlay which was given by King Rama V and made by Chang Sip Mu (the Ten Departments of Craftsmen), as well as a Hong - Hamsa or Swan - on top of the column. There are also many attractive forms of architecture to visit such as the Octagonal Mondop which is a combination of the Western and Thai styles and has a decoration made of stucco, looking like climbing plants on the window frames; a high-relief cement Buddha image which is situated outside the building; three chedis of 3 periods comprising hexagonal chedi of the Ayutthaya period, a chedi with twelve angles of the Rattanakosin period, and a bell-shaped chedi of the Sukhothai period; Uthai Phutthasapha Conference Hall which is a pavilion in a typical Thai style, used as a praying hall, having a gable with stucco relief decoration; and Phae Bot Nam, a floating ordination hall in front of the temple which was built to receive King Rama V when he visited the North Circle in 1906. It was formerly a twin raft-house with Cho Fa - a gable apex, and Bai Raka - a leaf-shaped roof-edging, like other ordination halls. On the gable, there is a circle with Pali scripts reading "Su Agata Te Maha Raja" which means Maha Raja - great king - comes well. Later, in 1976, it was repaired to be one 2-storeyed building, including a raised platform, with a hip roof. The circle was moved to place in the middle of the gable. This Phae Bot Nam is used in religious rites such as weddings, ordinations, funerals, and various merit-making occasions.

### **Wat Chantharam or Wat Tha Sung**

(วัดจันทาราม หรือวัดท่าซุง)

was formerly a temple built in the Ayutthaya period. It has a small ordination hall with mural paintings which depict the history of



*Wat Tha Sung*

Lord Buddha, assumed to have been made by local craftsmen in a later period. Some paintings were added with details so they look not proportionate. Another treasure of the temple is the Thammat, a pulpit, which was built by Luangpho Yai. At the wihan, there is a fairly beautiful cement Buddha image and the decorative pattern of woodcarving at some parts of the gable frame.

Opposite the temple, a new place of worship is situated in a very wide area where Phra



Ratchaphrommayan (Luangpho Ruesi Lingdam), a famous monk, constructed many buildings. For instance, Phra Ubosot Mai (New Ordination Hall) which is decorated elaborately and its pictures of angels on the window and door panels were painted by skillful artists. King Rama IX came to release the Luk Nimit, round stones to designate the limit of this ordination hall. The boundary wall was built surrounding the area and the life-like images of Luangpho Pan, and Luangpho Yai, 3 times larger than life size, are situated at the corner of the front wall. There are also Mondop and Phra Wihan housing a replica of Phra Phutthachinnarat and the undecayed body of Luangpho Ruesi Lingdam. The external parts of most buildings were made from white transparent mosaics, which look like glass. There are many halls for making meditation and accommodation. Each building opens at different times. The buildings begin to open at 10.30 a.m. and open again after a break in the afternoon, at 2.00 p.m.

In front of the temple, there is a sightseeing boat service: Wat Tha Sung-Muban Klangnam route, cost 40 baht. It takes 40 minutes. Contact Khun Nid Tel: 08 9958 1479, 08 7527 2243.

**To get there:** Wat Tha Sung is located at Mu 2, Tambon Nam Suem. There are two ways to get to the temple:

- 1) Take Highway 3265, going through to the ferry pier in Amphoe Manorom, taking approximately 12 km.
- 2) Take a blue Song Thaeo, a two-rowed car, on the Uthai Thani - Tha Sung route.

### **Local Historical and Cultural Museum**

(พิพิธภัณฑ์ประวัติศาสตร์และวัฒนธรรมท้องถิ่น)

is located at the Non-formal Education Centre, on Si Uthai Road (opposite TAT Uthai Thani).

Inside the museum, the exhibitions are arranged in rooms such as Career Development Room, Environmental Conservation Room, and others to display skeletons of pre-historical humans, costumes of city rulers, models of woodcarvings and Thai houses. It is open on Mondays - Fridays at 8.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. For further information, please call Tel: 0 5651 1511, 0 5657 1143.

### **Phra Saeng Ratchasattrawut of Uthai Thani** (พระแสงราชศัตราวุธประจำเมืองอุทัยธานี)

is a sword that the province was bestowed by King Rama V when he visited the northern outpost cities and came to Uthai Thani in 1906. Uthai Thani was the third city to receive this sword (after Ayutthaya and Chai Nat, respectively).

Phra Saeng Ratchasattrawut is a Thai sword made of high-quality white metal. It has a sharp point, one-sided blade edge, light weight, ridge with pattern inlaid with ivory into falling flowers. Both sides of the ridge have a gilded scroll pattern known as Kan Khot and there are scripts reading "Phra Saeng (sword) for Mueang Uthai Thani", in the middle of the base. The hilt is made of hard-textured wood covered with gold and enamel. Its grip has a pattern of Kanok Ta Oi (sugar-cane bud) and the end of the hilt takes the shape of a topknot pin with 3 tiered overturned lotuses, decorated with precious stones. The sword sheath is made of embossed gold into various beautiful patterns on both sides, with a beautiful Rak Roi floral pattern decorated with precious stones and decorative sheathes made into a scroll pattern of a bunch of flowers and leaves, inlaid with gemstones at its base. It can be said that this was a masterpiece of craftsmanship in the Rattanakosin period and it is a very important



*Hok Chae Tueng*



*Wat Nong Phluang*

sword of Uthai Thani. At present, the sword is kept at the storehouse of the province and will be displayed only in major royal rites.

### **Hok Chae Tueng** (ฮอกแชตึ้ง)

located at 427 Si Uthai Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, is a teak house in a Chinese style which is over hundred years old. Chinese people migrated into Sakae Krang village since the late Ayutthaya Period. Most of them were tradesmen who came with a ship containing goods. At that time, this village was a glorious trade market. Hok Chae Tueng, purposively built to be a meeting place, was formerly a drugstore and the centre of festivals and fairs, such as the annual Vegetarian Food Festival. At present, the upstairs is used to store musical instruments, medicine shelves, and necessary appliances, owned by Khun Sangiam Palawatwichai, used in the ceremony during the Vegetarian Food Festival.

## **Amphoe Nong Khayang**

### **Bueng Thap Tae** (บึงทับแต้)

Take Highway No. 3265 for about 12 km. from the city. Cross the Khlong Yang Bridge and drive on for about 4 km. Otherwise, rent a boat from the mouth of Khlong Yang to get to the swamp, taking about 5 km. Bueng Thap Tae, located at the end of Huai Khwi, is about 8 km. long and 300 metres wide. It is the source of various fish, so local people live by using water from this swamp and fishing. In winter, grebes from other regions will migrate to this swamp. In addition, on the side of the swamp near Ban Tha Thong, a habitation site of pre-historical humans was found with metal tools, pottery, beads and glass bangles. The evidence shows that they were a civilized tribe because they knew the method to make accessories from metals. Bottles of alcoholic drink brought into the Kingdom of Ayutthaya by Western people were also found.

### **Wat Nong Phluang** (วัดหนองพลวง)

is a temple built in 1857. The important

attraction inside the temple is Phra Ubosot, an ordination hall with a base in a shape of a ship's hull. The building is made of bricks and cement. The front gable is decorated with a stucco relief pattern decorated with crockery. However, the rear gable does not have any pattern and it is made of white cement, which looks simple and clean. There is no Cho Fa, a gable apex, and it has only one entrance. Sema boundary markers made of a sculpted stone are put on a lotus-shaped base.

*To get there:* Take Highway No. 333 out of the city. Between Km. 9-10, the temple is located on your right next to Nong Khayang Witthayakhom School.

## **Amphoe Nong Chang**

### **Old City of Uthai Thani** (เมืองอุไทยธานีเก่า)

is located at Ban Uthai Thani Kao. It was the location of Mueang Uthai Thani since the Ayutthaya period. Now the ruins still exist, such as Wat Hua Mak, Wat Yang, and Wat Kuti, while the surrounding areas have become rice fields. The temple which remains the same until now is Wat Chaeng. In this temple, there is a prang built in 1538 whose top was destroyed by the Burmese army. The latest repair was in 1985. The old ordination hall is small and has one door, in a style of the late Ayutthaya period. The stucco relief pattern of the prang and on the ordination hall's gable were made by the same craftsmen. The mural paintings in the ordination hall were made after the latest repair, which depicts the duty of King Taksin the Great. Another remaining temple is Wat Hua Mueang which has ruins of an Ayutthayan-styled ordination hall and small ancient pagoda in front of the old ordination hall.

*To get there:* From Nong Chang Market at Prasat

Wet School T-Junction, drive along the route to Wat Nong Khun Chat. Turn right at the T-junction and drive toward the opposite direction to Wat Nong Khun Chat for about 1 km. until you arrive at Wat Chaeng. Wat Hua Mueang is 1 km. beyond from Wat Chaeng.

### **Wat Nong Khun Chat** (วัดหนองขุนชาติ)

is a temple built in the Rattanakosin era. It has a Mondop which houses a replica of Lord Buddha's footprint. The ceremony to pay respect to the Lord Buddha's footprint will be held once a year on the twelfth day of the waxing moon in the third lunar month. The ceremony lasts 10 days 10 nights. *To get there:* Take Highway No. 3012 to the temple in Nong Chang Market, on the route Nong Chang - Thap Than. Turn left at the T-junction and drive along Highway No. 3013.

## **Amphoe Thap Than**

### **Wat Thap Than** (วัดทัพทัน)

The ordination hall's door panels are made elaborately by Rattanakosin craftsmen. One door panel, which has a sculpted picture of a man holding a flag, indicates the year 1823, while another one indicates the year of the pig. Ok Lao, a vertical wooden ridge covering the hole between two door panels, has a beautiful pattern. Another pair of panels has a sculpted picture of a god holding a bow and standing on a Naga. There is a mountain with several kinds of animals at the bottom and a pattern of Kanok Mali Lueai - stylized jasmine vine - on the top. There is no sculpted pattern on the panels' Ok Lao, so it is believed to have been made by local craftsmen. *To get there:* Take Highway 3221, Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani-Amphoe Thap Than route for 19 kilometres. The temple is located on the left about 1 kilometre before



the Thap Than District Office.

### **Ban Khok Mo's Local Weaving Centre**

(แหล่งทอผ้าพื้นเมืองบ้านโคกหม้อ)

Khok Mo residents are Lao Khrang minority who emigrated from Vientiane since the early Rattanakosin Period. They are very skillful in weaving cloth which has been a cultural heritage of Lao Khrang people from generation to generation for more than 200 years. After the harvest ends, all women in the village will begin to weave cloth to make Pha Mudmi with a Thin Chok, Pha Yok Dok - cloth in a raised pattern - with old Lai Choeng - foot pattern. The patterns of the cloth are of an ancient style such as Lai Dan Mueang Lao, Lai Nak, and Lai Dan Yai. In addition, in the past, they used Khrang - lac - in a dyeing process.

There are 2 weaving centres: Ban Khok Mo Weaving Centre, a group of people weaving silk cloth near Wat Khok Mo, and Ban Khok Mo Product Distribution and Weaving Demonstration Centre, situated at Mu 2, behind the office of Khok Mo Subdistrict Administration Organization. The latter group weaves cotton cloth with dyes from nature.

**To get there:** From Amphoe Thap Than, drive along Highway 3013, on the way to Amphoe Sawang Arom. After 10 km., turn into Highway 3456 and go straight on until seeing the direction sign. Turn left at the junction and drive along for about 4 km. until reaching Ban Khok Mo. The group is next to Wat Khok Mo.

### **Khao Pathawi (เขาปฐวี)**

Located in Tambon Taluk Du, is a small mountain range with a length of approximately 750 metres and a height of 253 metres. It is quite high and steep, formed by rocks of different heights situated one behind another to the top.

Surrounding the mountain, there are about 30 small and large caves, such as Tham Prathun, Tham Bandai, Tham Ang, Tham Buddha Prawat (Lord Buddha's Biography), Tham Pla (Fish Cave), and Tham Khangkhao (Bat Cave). Stone tools and pre-historical human skeletons were found. The ground in front of the mountain is covered with shady trees and there are a lot of monkeys.

### **Cattle Market, Nong Ya Plong (ตลาดนัดวัวควาย หนองหญ้าปล้อง)**

is located at Ban Nong Ya Plong, near Thap Than Anuson School. Travel from Amphoe Thap Than along the Thap Than - Sawang Arom route on Highway 3013 for about 1 km. The market is on your right, covering a wide area. On Sundays and Wednesdays, there are cows and buffaloes brought to sell. Some days there are appliances concerning cows and buffaloes. The market is closed in the evening.

### **Amphoe Sawang Arom**

#### **Mueang Boran Bueng Khok Chang (เมืองโบราณบึงคอกช้าง)**

Tambon Phai Khiao, is surrounded by a city ditch and earth wall. Ancient ruins, pottery, stones for pulverizing herbs, metal tools, and yellow beads, as well as three ancient Khmer inscription stones were found here. At present, this historical site is a forest garden, covered with large trees, but the city ditch has become shallow. The discovered artefacts are kept in the Local Historical and Cultural Museum, in the Non-formal Education Centre, opposite TAT Uthai Thani. **To get there:** Take Highway 3221 from Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani, passing Amphoe Thap Than. Turn into Highway 3013, passing Amphoe Sawang Arom. Then, take Highway 3456 for about 14 km. bound toward Amphoe Lan Sak. There will be a stupa and a

sign leading to Bueng Khok Chang on the left. This route leads through the old city of Bueng Khok Chang.

## Amphoe Lan Sak

### Thung Yai Naresuan – Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary (เขตรักษาพันธุ์สัตว์ป่าทุ่งใหญ่นเรศวร-ห้วยขาแข้ง)

has begun to be known since it was registered as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in December 1991.

Huai Kha Khaeng has an area of 3,609,375 rais or 5,775 square kilometres, covering an area of 6 districts of 3 provinces: Amphoe Ban Rai, Amphoe Lan Sak, and Amphoe Huai Khot in Uthai Thani; Amphoe Sangkhla Buri and Amphoe Thong Pha Phum in Kanchanaburi; and Amphoe Umphang in Tak. It also includes the area of Thung Yai Naresuan Wildlife Sanctuary, so this is the largest connected conserved forest in Thailand and the South East Asia Region.

The weather is very hot in summer, and it rains heavily all day in the rainy season, while the winter lasts for a very short period.

Huai Kha Khaeng was announced to be a World Heritage Site because of its natural diversity, including 5 out of 7 kinds of tropical forests which are dry evergreen forest, montane forest, savanna, mixed deciduous forest, and deciduous dipterocarp forest. These forests are blessed with biodiversity. Some of the fauna are nearly extinct, such as wild water buffalo, serow, leopard, Asiatic wild dog, red junglefowl cock, green peafowl and many species of forest insects.

Normally, the wildlife sanctuary does not open for tourists because it is a conserved, high-sensitive area. A lot of people's visits may

destroy the ecological balance. However, after the sanctuary was announced to be a World Heritage Site and became well known to the public, it has permitted travelers to visit only 3 points of areas to learn about nature without staying overnight. Therefore, tourists have to follow the rules strictly. Those permitted areas are: 1. The Headquarters of Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary; 2. Cyber Ranger Station (see further details in the Cyber Waterfall); and 3. Huai Mae Di Ranger Station (in the area of Amphoe Ban Rai, on Highway No.3011, Huai Mae Di – Ban Mai Khlong Angwa. There is a nature study route)

In the area of the headquarters of the wildlife sanctuary, there is a statue of Seub Nakhasathien, facing southwest to see how the Western Forest changes through time. There is an 8-stepped stairway which represents the time of 8 months when Seub was in the position of the head of the sanctuary. The pattern on the stairs represents the obstacles in his work.

### Seub Nakhasathien Memorial Building (อาคารอนุสรณ์สถานสืบ นาคะเสถียร)

is a multi-purpose building used as a place to arrange events and exhibitions concerning Seub Nakhasathien, the important person who played a major role in encouraging the announcement of Huai Kha Khaeng as a World Heritage Site. "I think, in my life I have done my best. I think, I have helped society well. I think, I have made it as good as I can. I am pleased and proud of what I have done," said Seub Nakhasathien.

### Seub's Shelter (บ้านพักคุณสืบ)

still remains the same like when he was alive. In the bedroom, where Seub ended his life, there is a table with many pictures of his daughter,

labourers, and forest. Beside the table, a few pairs of shoes were put on the floor.

### **Patrol Labour Memorial** (อนุสรณ์คนงานลาดตระเวน)

is another important place which reminds us of the labourers who were shot to death during their mission. It is located in front of the reception shelter. If visitors have a chance to visit Huai Kha Khaeng, Seub's Shelter and Patrol Labour Memorial, they may get something more than just the spirit of environmental conservation.

### **Khao Hin Daeng Nature Study Route** (เส้นทางศึกษาธรรมชาติเขาหินแดง)

is approximately 6 km. long, taking about 4 hours to travel on foot. There are 18 points to interpret the meaning of the nature, including deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, and dry evergreen forest, as well as a sight-seeing point, Pong Thian. After December, there are a lot of birds from various species, most of which are red-breasted parakeet and lineated barbet. Normally, tourists can travel on this route by themselves, using a manual provided at the headquarters of the sanctuary. For a guide, please contact Huai Kha Khaeng Forest Fire Prevention Unit in advance. However, this natural route is closed in April. For details, contact Tel: 08 5725 8433, 08 7840 0316 [www.huaikhakhaeng.net](http://www.huaikhakhaeng.net).

**To get there:** take one of these 2 routes:

1. Enter at the headquarters of Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, approximately 102 km. from the provincial city along Highway No. 333 (Uthai Thani – Nong Chang). Then take Highway 3438 from Nong Chang – Lan Sak. After turning left at Km. 53-54 and driving

along for about 15 km., arriving at the office of Khao Hin Daeng Checkpoint, located on the Huai Thap Salao creek side. From the sanctuary office, drive for 14 km. to the Kapuk Kapiang Ranger Station or 17 km. to the Khao Nang Ram Research Station.

2. Enter at the Khao Bandai Ranger Station, which is in the south of Huai Kha Khaeng, approximately 137 km. from the provincial city, along Highway 333, the Uthai Thani - Nong Chang route. Then, turn into Highway 3282, Nong Chang - Ban Rai route, taking about 80 km. Turn left to a laterite road, passing Ban Mai Khlong Aangwa for 30 km. until reaching the Khlong Rayang Border. Go along to Huai Maedi and the Khao Bandai Ranger Station. Visitors can choose forest trekking to the north or the south of the Huai Kha Khaeng Creek.

*\* In the rainy season, it is difficult to drive through the entrance due to flooding on the laterite road.*

**Accommodation:** To stay overnight, contact the Wildlife Sanctuary Management Subdivision in person at least 20 days in advance at the Wildlife Conservation Office, Department of National Park, Wildlife and Flora. For further information, please contact Tel: 0 2561 4292-3 ext. 765 or Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, P.O. Box 7, Amphoe Lan Sak, Uthai Thani 61160 or Tel: 0 5651 9654. There are 3 permitted points for staying overnight. The first point is in the area of the sanctuary office, including 3 houses with a capacity of 10-30 persons and the training building with a capacity of 80 persons. The second point is at the Cyber Ranger Station, and the third one is at the Huai Mae Di Ranger Station.

### **Khao Phraya Phai Ruea** (เขาพระยาพายุเร็ว)

Tambon Lan Sak, is 59 km. from Amphoe



Mueang Uthai Thani, on Highway 3438, Nong Chang – Lan Sak route. Turn right at Km. 29-30 to the Lan Sak District Office. Drive along a laterite road for 4 km. to the foothill. Climb up about 150 metres to the entrance of the cave. It is a small cave with a height of 257 metres. When looking at the mountain from a far place, it looks like a Chinese junk, and a sight-seeing point is on the top. The mountain composes of many small caves connected to each other, such as Tham Kao, Tham Si Chomphu, Tham Thong Phrarong, Tham Ang Nammon, and Tham -Phutthasathan. The way through the caves is quite complicated, but there are direction signs and electric lights to facilitate visitors who would like to admire the beautiful stalagmites and stalactites. In the top part of the cave, a large reclining Buddha image is situated. The entrance of the cave is on the left. There is only one entrance which extends deeply to the lower part with stairs to climb down into the bottom of the cave.

### **Khao Pha Raet** (เขาผาแรด)

in Tambon Lan Sak, approximately 7.5 km. from the rear of Lan Sak District Office. Khao Pha Raet is about 8 km. from Khao Phraya Phai Ruea. It is a small mountain with a height of 376 metres. Inside the mountain, there is a cave with stalagmites and stalactites, which is a habitat of bats. There is a monastic residence or Samnak Song at the foothill.

### **Khao Plara** (เขาปลาร้า)

is a border between Ban Huai Sok in Amphoe Lan Sak and Tambon Khao Bang Kraek in Amphoe Nong Chang. Khao Plara is a large steep mountain with a height of approximately 598 metres. The forest is quite unspoilt. Visitors have to travel by foot and climb up the

mountain for 900 metres, taking about 2 hours to get to the top of the mountain, where they can admire the beautiful sight of its topography. On the top of the mountain, a large plain lies covered with Makha – *Azelia xylocarpa* - forest. On the west cliff at the height of 320 metres, approximately 3,000 year-old cave paintings from the pre-historical period were found. They were drawn with black and red lines. The black lines are quite pale but the red ones can still be seen. The paintings were drawn along the cliff for a total distance of about 9 metres, and they are mostly painted red. There are groups of about 40 pictures including pictures of humans in many characteristics and animal pictures. Those pictures depict the way of life of ancient humans, which is important historical heritage of Uthai Thani.

Archaeologists divided the groups of paintings on Khao Plara into 4 groups. Group one are pictures of humans with pets (believed to be dogs). Group two are pictures which show the relationship between human and cow, catching the wild cow and the way to bring it back to take care of it. Group three are pictures of rituals. Humans in the pictures had certain accessories, different from others with animals that look like monkeys. Group four includes miscellaneous pictures, most of which are pictures of animals. The coloured paintings were elaborately made and look more life-like than other places. For travellers who would like to climb up Khao Plara: it is suggested that they should prepare drinking water, and put on suitable trainers because the path is made of sliding small grains of rocks. It is recommended that they should carry only necessary things.

**To get there:** Take Highway 333 from the city, passing Amphoe Nong Chang. Then, take



*Hup Pa Tat*

Highway 3438, Nong Chang - Lan Sak route for about 21.5 km. Khao Plara is on the left. Turn left along an asphalted road for about 7.5 km. Otherwise, take a bus (Uthai Thani - Lan Sak) then, take a bus from Lan Sak to Huai Sok Intersection and hire a motorcycle to the Khao Plara Non-hunting Area.

### **Hup Pa Tat** (หุบป่าตาด)

is a valley located at Mu 1, Tambon Pa O. Enter the same way as Khao Plara and it is 1 km. before Khao Plara. It is 50 kilometres from Mueang Uthai Thani. There is a cave which was discovered by Phrakhru Santithammakoson (Luangpho Thongyot), the abbot of Wat Tham Thong. In 1979, Phrakhru climbed down in this valley and found a lot of Tat trees (ancient trees in the same species as palm trees). Therefore, he drilled the cave to open the entrance in 1984. Later, the Department of Forestry announced

this place as a conserved area because of its amazing topography and rarely-found plants such as Tao Rang (fish tail palm), Plao, and Khatkhao Lek. Hup Pa Tat is under responsibility of the Tham Prathun Non-hunting Area. The path leading into Hup Khao Pa Tat is quite dark, but after walking not so long visitors will see a large hole above that the light shines through to Pa Tat below, creating the atmosphere of the evergreen forest with high humidity in the primitive world. The light can shine down on the ground only at noon because it is surrounded by steep limestone mountains. It is a shady place where it is possible to admire the nature. To prepare for a trip to Hup Pa Tat, bring a torch and mosquito-repellent lotion. Tel: 0 5653 7589.

### **Tham Khao Khong Chai** (ถ้ำเขาฆ้องชัย)

is a mountain in Tambon Lan Sak, with a height of 353 metres. In front of Khao Khong Chai, there

is a shallow, spacious cave in a form of a large tunnel. It is believed that this cave used to be a habitat of pre-historical humans because they found stone tools and shards of pottery. A flock of bats live in the cave and fly out in the evening to find food. If climbing up the high cliff, it is possible to find the caves above, such as Tham Thong Chai, Tham Maha Sombat, Tham Pet, and Tham Lom. Nearby, another mountain with beautiful caves is located. The large land in the middle of the valley covers an area of a temple and Lan Sak Witthaya School. *To get there:* Take Highway 333 from the city, passing Amphoe Nong Chang. Then, take Highway 3438, Nong Chang – Lan Sak route. About 2 km. before getting to Amphoe Lan Sak, turn left into Lan Sak Witthaya School. Drive on for about 500 m. until arriving at Khao Khong Chai, which is approximately 52.4 km. from the provincial city.

### **Huai Rabam Forest Garden** (สวนป่าห้วยระบำ)

is located in Tambon Rabam, 78 km. from the provincial town, with an area of 11,740 rais (18,784,000 square metres). This reforestation is under responsibility of the Thai Plywood Company Limited. There are also teak, eucalyptus, and *Casuarinas junghuniana* Miq. forests. Visit the plot of newly planted forest. A reception house with a capacity of about 30 persons is available for staying overnight but visitors have to bring their own food. In the dry season, there is a shortage of water. In the rainy season, it is difficult to enter to the forest garden. For further details, please contact the Thai Plywood Co., Ltd. at Tel: 0 5651 1094 or Provincial Forestry Office at Tel: 0 5631 1009. *To get there:* Drive along Highway 3438. At about Km. 46, turn left and go on for about 16 km.

### **Khuean Thap Salao** (เขื่อนทับเสลา)

is located in Mu 6, Tambon Rabam. From

Amphoe Lan Sak, take Highway 3438 for about 15 km. At Km. 47, turn into the intersection leading to Khuean Thap Salao for about 2 km. to the sight-seeing point. If coming from the city, the entrance is on the left.

Khuean Thap Salao is a large irrigation dam, obstructing Thap Salao Stream to create a reservoir with an attractive view, with an undulated mountain range as a background. In the south of the dam, there are deciduous dipterocarp forest and planted forest garden. Local people often come on weekends for recreation. There is a welfare shop provided.

### **Amphoe Huai Khot**

#### **Cyber Waterfall or Namtok Hin Lat** (น้ำตกไซเบอร์ หรือน้ำตกหินลาด)

is under the responsibility of the Cyber Ranger Station. It is situated near Cyber Village (Ban Sap Mae Bue), Tambon Khok Khwai, 86 km. from the provincial city. This multi-layered waterfall is formed by water from Huai Loi Choi which flows from a high mountain in Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary. The waterfall at the higher level is called Namtok Loi Choi. In some parts, the water falls over a big rock so it is called Namtok Hin Lat. Below, there is an enormous water basin to receive the water which keeps flowing down continuously. In other part, the water squeezes through rocks to the basin, creating a beautiful high multi-layered waterfall. There will be a lot of water in September until early November. Huai Loi Choi will meet Huai Thap Salao. The waterfall is surrounded by a rattan forest with shady trees and leaves that change their colours in November.

There is one reception house which can hold 20-30 persons. Food service is not provided,

so visitors have to prepare it by themselves. It is necessary to have a letter of permission from the managing department of the wildlife sanctuary because it is under the responsibility of Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary. For further information, please call Tel: 0 2561 4292-3 ext. 765.

**To get there:** Take Highway 3282, turn left at Km. 30, and drive into an unpaved road for 7 km. Travel on foot for another 900 metres. The entrance is a laterite road with sharp rocks all the way, passing many creeks. In the rainy season (August - October), it is not possible to drive along this road. It is recommended to take a 4 wheel-drive car. Otherwise, take a bus Ban Rai - Khlong Haeng from Ban Rai Market and get off at Ban Thonglang, at Km. 19. Then rent a local car to the destination.

### **Ban Samo Thong Hot Spring** (น้ำพุร้อนบ้านสมอทอง)

is located in Ban Samo Thong, Tambon Khok Khwai, in the Huai Khun Kaeo Irrigation Project. It is a small natural hot spring emerging from the ground. The water is clear with a smell of sulphur. It is so hot that it can boil an egg within 5 minutes. The spring flows through the hole of the valley to meet Huai Khok Khwai. At present, it is renovated to be a hot spring well and becomes a sight-seeing point to admire the beautiful sunset.

**To get there:** Travel from Amphoe Nong Chang to Amphoe Ban Rai, along Highway 3282, Amphoe Ban Rai-Amphoe Huai Khot route, taking about 33 km. Notice a large Buddha image on the right in the middle of the valley. After passing two canal bridges, there is an intersection at the entrance to Huai Khun Kaeo Irrigation Project. Drive on for another 2 km. until arriving at Ban Samo Thong Hot Spring.

## **Amphoe Ban Rai**

### **Mueang Boran Ban Ka Rung** (เมืองโบราณบ้านการุ้ง)

is an ancient local community located in Tambon Wang Hin. The characteristics of the city is an oval shape with an 800-metre diameter. The city has a single ditch with a width of 20 metres and a depth of 3 metres. The part of the ditch which is next to the roadside is deepened. The water flows into the ditch all year and the earthen dyke is 6 metres wide. At present, it is an office of the Highway District. The discovered evidence includes a stone bell, Buddha image in a gesture of descending from Tavatimsa Heaven, potsherds, stone axes, ornaments, and ruins of a pagoda which is about 3 km. south from the city. This pagoda was made of large bricks and its base is 7 metres wide. At present, in front of the Ka Rung City Ditch, there is a shrine of Chaomae Ka Rung on the side of the highway, which is respected by many people. Mueang Ka Rung was registered as a national ancient monument on 8 March, 1935. **To get there:** Take Highway 333, Nong Chang - Ban Rai route, passing Ban Thung Na and Khao Taphap Intersection until arriving at Ban Ka Rung. Before getting to Amphoe Ban Rai about 10 km., Mueang Ka Rung is on the bend, where the shrine of Chaomae Ka Rung can be seen on the left, about 69 km. from the city of Uthai Thani. Tel: 08 9270 9683

### **Wat Tham Khao Taphap** (วัดถ้ำเขาตะพาน)

is a cave located on a small mountain in the area of Tambon Wang Hin, approximately 56 km. from the provincial city. Drive along Highway 3213 for about 1 km. The temple is on the right. Tham Khao Taphap is about 10 metres above ground level. In the same area, there are a lot



of caves. In front of the cave, it is arranged to be a monk's living quarters, housing a Buddha image. If turning right to the rear of the cave, it is possible to find other caves: Tham Thong Phra Rong, Tham Kao, Tham Prasat, and Tham Ruea. If turning left, take the exit behind the temple and the way to a deep cave with stairs leading to the bottom of the cave. At the tunnel behind its beauty, there is a rock in a shape like Taphap, a soft-shelled turtle. Pre-historical stone tools were discovered here. Every cave has electric lights to facilitate all visitors to admire its beauty. There are a lot of bats living in the cave.

### **Wat Khao Wong Phrommachan** (วัดเขาวง พระมัจฉารักษ์)

is located in Tambon Wang Hin. Use the same entrance as Wat Tham Khao Taphap and it is about 7 km. further. Turn left for about 1 km. The temple is situated in the valley between 2 mountains: Khao Wong and Khao Phrommachan. There are a lot of interesting caves; such as Tham Chaeng where the light shines through it, Tham Ngu Lueam where many reticulated pythons – Ngu Lueam - live, Tham Nam which has water all the time (at knee level in the dry season, and at chest level in the rainy season). Moreover, in Tham Phet Tham Phloi, there are stalagmites and stalactites which glitter like jewellery or Phet Phloi. A guide is necessary when visiting Tham Kao and Tham Phet. On the right, there is an overhanging rock where a small mondop is situated and a beautiful ordination hall is located on the hillside.

### **Wat Tham Khao Wong** (วัดถ้ำเขาวง)

in Tambon Ban Rai, is a temple on a large mountain which is located on Highway 3011, 12 km. from the district. Pass the bend in front of the Chaopho Khao Rak Shrine until getting to

the junction. Turn right and go on for about 6 km. Turn left at the intersection leading to Khao Wong. Drive on for about 8 km., turn into the intersection, and go on for 300 metres. The road will gradually be sloping with bending parts of cliff, so it is necessary to climb up along the valley.

The temple is a 4-storeyed building and its basement is used as a multi-purpose court with shops. A wihan is situated on the second floor and the monks' shelter is on the third floor. On the fourth floor, there is an ordination hall made of teak and Makha wood including old wood from Thai houses in Ayutthaya and Ang Thong. The roof was brought from Lamphun. The reconstruction of the building, Tua Ngao – gable ends, Pan Lom – gable finial, and Chua – gable – were made by craftsmen from Ayutthaya.

The arrangement of the landscape is admirable. The background of the scenery is a limestone high mountain. In front of the temple, there is a well and garden decorated with rocks, topiary, and decorative plants. The construction cost about 30 million baht. Along the way to the cave, pass an artificial waterfall which fits in with the environment.

At the back of the mountain, there are 7-8 caves. Some caves are the places for monks to make meditation, and others are the habitat of bats or the place to see stalagmites and stalactites. On the mountain, a wide plain stretches out on the landscape, including Yang, Makha and Salao trees. Some wildlife exists.

### **Tham Khao Wong Forest Park** (วนอุทยาน ถ้ำเขาวง)

is located in the south west of Uthai Thani, being a part of the Western Forest next to Phu Toei National Park in Suphan Buri. The topography



Tham Phu Wai

includes limestone mountains which are high, undulated and steep, with more than 35% of slope. It is a water source, flowing through Amphoe Ban Rai, Uthai Thani.

*Interesting Attractions:*

### **Tham Phu Wai** (ถ้ำพุนพวย)

a large cave, with a spacious area housing stalagmites and stalactites in various forms, such as pagoda and basin. Visitors have to climb up to the entrance on the mountain slope. The

air is fresh and well-ventilated. There is a hole leading through to the opposite part of the mountain, 9 species of bats live in the cave. Visitors can contact a guide at the entrance of the cave. It takes about an hour to walk through the hole. Behind Tham Phu Wai, there is another small cave: Tham Thep Mali or Tham Phaya Nak, which is quite deep but naturally attractive with stalagmites and stalactites. See the wide splendid view on the top of Khao Phu Wai which is 700 metres high from sea level. Additionally, the deciduous dipterocarp forest on the mountain ridge is quite unspoilt.

*To get there:* From Amphoe Ban Rai, take Highway 3011, Ban Rai - Phu Bon route, passing the bend in front of the Chaopho Khao Rak Shrine until getting to the intersection with the direction sign of Ban I Lum – Ban Khao Phu Toei. Turn right and go on for about 6 km. Drive pass the entrance of Wat Tham Khao Wong for another 3 km. before getting to the entrance of Tham Phu Wai.

### **Local Weaving Exhibition and Demonstration Centre (Phaichit Weaving Group)** (ศูนย์แสดงและสาธิตการทอผ้าพื้นเมือง (กลุ่มทอผ้าไพจิตร))

is located behind Wat Ban Rai, next to Ban Na Fai Bueng Ta Pho School. Turn into the alley beside the school and go on for 700 metres. It is a group of people weaving cotton cloth with dyes from nature. They also teach others who are interested in weaving. The patterns of the cloth are ancient ones such as Lai Kho Luang, and Lai Kho Kham Duean. There are shops to sell Pha Sin, bedspread, tablecloth, cloth for tailoring and Mon Khit pillow. In this area, there is also a museum of ancient cloth which is more than a hundred years old.



Namtok Pha Rom Yen

### **Namtok Pha Rom Yen** (น้ำตกผาร่มเย็น)

at Ban Mai Rom Yen, can be seen from the roadside. It is a white stream, flowing down from the evergreen forest. Uthai Thani people said this is the most beautiful waterfall in their province because visitors can see that the thin stream flows straight down, looking like falling rain, cascading down an earth cliff with green moss. The area is covered with shady forest to make visitors cool and fresh. The journey to

Namtok Pha Rom Yen takes about 20 minutes. Normally, it is possible to walk alone. If visitors need a guide, please contact Chao Wat Subdistrict Administration Organization Tel: 0 5698 4069 or contact Suan Huai Pa Pok Resort, at Tel: 0 5653 9085.

*To get there:* From Amphoe Ban Rai, take Highway 3011, Ban Rai - Phu Bon route until getting to Ban Mai Rom Yen. Turn right and drive along for about 2 km., until arriving at the starting point of the walking route. From that point, walk to the waterfall for another 400 metres.

### **Ban I Mat - I Sai Hill Tribe Cultural Centre**

(ศูนย์วัฒนธรรมชาวเขาบ้านอีมาด-อีทราย)

is located at Mu 4, Tambon Kaen Makrut, under the responsibility of the Hill Tribe Development and Contribution Centre, Uthai Thani, existing in a part of Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary. Most hill tribes are Karen, living peacefully and simply while they still practice their old traditions strictly. The examples of major interesting events are the festival to pay respect to the pagoda where there is a show of sword dancing, and the ceremony to pay respect to the Pho tree. When the festivals are held, all relatives will return home. Those two events will be held every year in April. The date of the ceremony depends on the readiness of the people in the community; for example, when they finish harvesting. The most important thing is that this village does strictly not allow people to get involved in gambling or drinking alcohol.

Visitors can stay overnight at the Karen village, Chao Wat Yang Daeng Village, or shelters in the cultural centre which houses the Hill Tribe Museum. Please call Tel: 0 5651 2026 from 8.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m. It also sells hand-made products,

local woven cloth in natural color, bamboo basketry, and seasonal agricultural goods, such as dried chili.

**To get there:** From Amphoe Ban Rai, drive along Highway 3011, Ban Rai - Phu Bon route for about 20 km. to the end of the asphalted road. Take a laterite road for another 1 km.

### **Tham Kret Dao** (ถ้ำเกร็ดดาว)

is 1 km. far from Ban I Mat-I Sai Hill Tribe Cultural Centre. It is possible to see the walking route leading to this cave. From its entrance, there is a bamboo ladder leading downward to the cave. It is a massive cave with large stones which can glitter when the light shines on them. The ceiling is full of bats. Villagers bring those bats' droppings to make a fertilizer for plants in their fields. It is necessary to bring a torch.

### **Namtok Tat Dao** (น้ำตกตาดดาว)

is a little further from the entrance of Tham Kret Dao. The 9-tiered waterfall flows over rocks and is surrounded by fertile forest.

### **Botanical Garden** (สวนพฤกษศาสตร์)

is about 5 km. from the cultural centre. It has a natural fresh and comfortable atmosphere. It takes about an hour to walk around. In the garden, there are useful local plants and various species of plants; such as Sadao Pa whose fruits and leaves can be made into an organic repellent, Ton Sabu whose fruits can be used in bathing, washing hair and clothes, Rang Chuet which has a medical property to sober up. Some plants are poisonous such as hair of Chang Rong which can make people's skin painfully itch when touching. Ya Nong – upas trees - has a poisonous sap which hunters in the past applied to the end of their darts that used for hunting.



*Tak Bat Thewo, Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri*

## **EVENTS & FESTIVALS**

### **Tak Bat Thewo, Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri**

(งานตักบาตรเทโว วัดสังกัสรัตนคีรี) is an important ceremony marking the end of Buddhist Lent of Uthai Thani. It will be held every year on the first day of the waning moon in the eleventh lunar month (October). On that day, about 200-300 monks who have been staying in temples in Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani during the rainy season will walk down the stairs in a row from



the top of Khao Sakae Krang. In front of the row, there is the Buddha image in a gesture of descending from Tavatimsa Heaven to receive alms offerings from Buddhists at the temple court. The mondop on the top of Khao Sakae Krang is supposed to represent “Sirimahamaya Kudakhan”, the place in heaven where Lord Buddha gave a sermon to his mother and came back to Earth by walking down the 339 stepped stairs, supposed to be the glass stairs to Sankasa City or Sangkatsanakhon which is assumed to be at Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri. On this day, people will dress neatly and come to make merit together. It can be said that this is a famous and popular festival which persuades lots of tourists to visit every year.

**Phra Phutthamongkhon Saksit Fair** (งานไหว้พระพุทธรูปมงคลศักดิ์สิทธิ์) at Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri is a folk festival which will be held on the third – eighth day of waxing moon in the fourth lunar month. It is a fair to pay respect to the signature Buddha image of Uthai Thani. Formerly, the fair had a purpose of gilding the replica of the Lord Buddha’s footprint on the top of Khao Sakae Krang. At present, they hold the ceremony on the same occasion on the fifth day of the waxing moon, because it is the day most Buddhists come to pay homage to the Phra Phutthamongkhon Saksit image and climb up to the top of the mountain to gild the replica of the Lord Buddha’s footprint. Furthermore, there are also other entertaining activities every year.

**Huai Kha Khaeng World Heritage Day** (งานวันมรดกโลกห้วยขาแข้ง) will be held every year on 5-9 December since the Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary was announced by UNESCO to be the “Natural World Heritage” on 13 December 1991. Therefore, the Cabinet at that time had a resolution to announce 9

December of every year as Huai Kha Khaeng – Thung Yai Naresuan Wildlife Sanctuary’s Day. There are activities to help conserve the environment such as camping and reforestation in honour of His Majesty the King, the parade and animal model contest.

**King Rama I’s Royal Father Memorial Day and Uthai Thani Red Cross Fair** (งานวันรำลึกสมเด็จพระปฐมบรมมหาชนก และงานกาชาด) will be held every year during 27 March – 5 April at the provincial stadium to pay homage to and commemorate King Rama I’s royal father.

**Wat Nong Khun Chat Fair** (งานประจำปีวัดหนองขุนชาติ) in Amphoe Nong Chang, will be held every year on the twelfth day of the waxing moon to the fifth day of the waning moon in the third lunar month. Formerly, it was a festival to pay homage to the replica of the Lord Buddha’s footprint and it was very popular. Therefore, it has been arranged annually after that.

**Folk Entertainment at Ban Tha Pho** (การละเล่นพื้นเมืองที่บ้านท่าโพ) in Amphoe Nong Khayang, held in the Songkran (Thai New Year) Festival during 13-14 April. Villagers in Tha Po and Phan Si Villages will join to arrange local games and entertainment at Wat Tha Pho. They sing songs such as Phleng Chakkayoe, Phleng Lom, and Phleng Ram Wong Boran joyfully, and each song has its own specific gestures of dancing. In addition, they play Mon Son Pha, Chiap Chiap Choi, Chuang Chai, Suea Kin Wua, and Mae Si games, depending on what they want to compete with each other. Most games and plays in this village still use the original lyrics according to tradition they have practiced for generations.

**Karen Folk Entertainment** (การละเล่นของชาวกะเหรี่ยง) at Karen Village, Tambon Khok Khwai,

and Tambon Kaen Makrut in Amphoe Ban Rai. They still practice old traditions, such as Choe Ho Te Dancing and lullaby songs, wedding and divorce traditions, spirit worship, Bun Chao Wat Fair and local cloth weaving.

**Chinese God Parade in Uthai Thani** (งานแห่เจ้าของชาวจีนในอุทัยธานี) is a Chinese tradition to hold a ceremony and parade of Chaopho – god – and Chaomae – goddess – from many shrines. The anniversary depends on each god; some are celebrated every 5 years, and others may be on parade every 12 or 14 years. The procession of Chaopho Pung Thao Kong, the City Pillar God of Uthai Thani, includes a row of many beautiful girls holding flags, marching along the road around the city. There are Chinese lion dancing troupes to give a blessing along the Chinese shops in the market. Every shop has a worship table decorated with large beautiful ivory. In the festival of Chaomae Thapthim, “Chui Buai Niao”, there will be a ceremony to change her clothes and a firewalking ceremony by a medium.

## LOCAL PRODUCTS AND SOUVENIRS

**Sakae Krang Giant Gourami** (ปลาแรดสะแกกรัง) is raised in the Sakae Krang River. It weighs about 2 kg. People often fry it, applied with a paste of garlic and pepper, dipping in the fish sauce with lime juice.

**Black Ear Catfish and Striped Catfish** (ปลาเทโพและปลาสวาย) is often steamed and mixed with seasoning agents, cooked with young bamboo shoot, or fermented to be Pla Chao. The fish fat can add more delicious taste.

**Parboiled Fish** (ปลาลวก) is one well-known dish of Uthai Thani. People often eat it with

boiled rice, selling at the night market. They soft-boil snakehead fish and mix it with flavouring agents.

**Grilled Fish** (ปลาย่าง) is often made from grilled and smoked whisker sheatfish or yellow mystus, according to an original recipe. It smells and tastes good. Its cost may be more expensive than some other places because they are elaborately cooked. Otherwise, buy the fish yourself and have the shop grill it. However, they often grill fish on the raft-house in the Sakae Krang River.

**Ko Thepho Pomelo** (ส้มโอเกาะเทโพ) is planted on Ko Thepho. Its taste is sweet. It is well known, being sold at Manorom Market.

**No Mai Ruak of Khao Sakae Krang** (หน่อไม้รวกเขาสะแกกรัง) is a bamboo shoot from a kind of bamboo known as No Mai Phai Ruak which grows on Khao Sakae Krang. It is sweet and crispy, being packed in a bottle for selling as a souvenir. It can be kept for years. Short shoots are for eating freshly with chili sauce but long shoots are for cooking other dishes.

**Pickled Termite Mushroom** (เห็ดโคนดอง) is a kind of mushroom which grows in the forest in Amphoe Ban Rai and Amphoe Thap Than. It is crispy and delicious, different from termite mushroom from other places. People usually pickle and pack them in a bottle. It can be used to cook many dishes.

**Local Woven Cloth** (ผ้าทอพื้นเมือง) is both silk and cotton; mostly made in Khok Mo Village in Amphoe Thap Than and Lao villages such as Ban Pha Thang, Ban Natapho, Ban Sanam, Ban Huai Haeng, and Ban Thonglang, which are in Amphoe Ban Rai, and Ban Mai Thai Isan in Amphoe Lan Sak.





Local Woven Cloth,  
Ban Natapho

**Basketry at Tha Rak Wai** (เครื่องจักสานท่า  
รากหวาย) is woven work made from bamboo  
brought from Ko Thepho. It can be used to  
make many products: handbag, basket, square-  
based basket, and market basket, all of which  
are popular because they are finely made. In  
addition, there is wickerwork made from water  
hyacinth, such as hat and bag.

**Fish and Shrimp Rice Crisp** (ข้าวเกรียบปลา  
และข้าวกุ้งกรอบ) made from real shrimp and  
spotted featherback. It has a natural taste;  
crispy, sweet, salted and delicious.

**Soi Fish Sauce from Tha Sung** (น้ำปลาปลา  
สร้อยท่าซุง) is a real fish sauce made from Jullien's  
Mud Carp, which live in the Sakae Krang River,  
especially in Tambon Tha Sung. The fish sauce  
is clean and has a good smell.

**Khanom Kong at Nong Kae** (ขนมกงหนอง  
แก) is a wheel-like dessert produced at Ban  
Nong Kae. It tastes sweet and smells good as it  
is made following the original recipe. It is well  
known according to the slogan "Nam Ya at Nam  
Song, Khanam Kong at Nong Kae". It is produced  
and sold daily.

**Chinese Heart-stimulant** (ยาลมจัน) is made  
following the famous ancient recipe. The elderly  
usually use it because of its good quality.  
However, the stimulant is quite strong. It is sold  
by Khit (equal to 100 g.) and packed in a bottle.  
There are many brands available.

**Fruits in Honey** (ผลไม้แช่น้ำผึ้ง) are dried  
fruits preserved in honey such as mango,  
santol, carambola, tamarind, jujube, and star  
gooseberry. The most popular products are  
mangoes in honey and tamarind preserved in  
syrup. It is delicious and can be kept for long.

**Krayasat** (กระยาสารท) is a kind of dessert,

different from other places because the  
ingredient includes honey, so it tastes sweet  
and delicious.

**Egg-custard bun** (ขนมปังสังขยา) is bun assorted  
with sweet custard.

## Souvenir Shops

### Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani

**Rakkandee Pattana Group** (กลุ่มชุมชนรัก  
การดีพัฒนา) 50/4 Rakkandee Road Tel: 08 1888  
1410 Fax: 0 5657 1334 (Custom & Art Knife  
made of steel)

**Khrueang Hom Thai Doem**, 62 Mu 6,  
Tambon Ko Thepho. Tel: 08 1973 2931. (Thai  
pot-pourri).

**Chat Uthai**, 73 Maharat Road, Tambon Uthai  
Mai. Tel: 0 5651 1712, 0 5657 1427. It is open  
from 6.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. (Products are fish  
and shrimp rice crisp, fried pork crackling and  
fish skin).

**Sa Min Osot (Thap Thim heart tonic)**, 57  
Tha Chang Road. Tel: 0 5651 1314. (traditional  
herbal medicine).

**Tang Yu Huat**, 561 Si Uthai Road, Tambon  
Uthai Mai. Tel: 0 5651 1285, 0 5651 1036,  
08 1886 7217. It is open at 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.  
(preserved fruits)

**Giant Gourami at Ban Rong Nam Khaeng**,  
31 Mu 5, Tambon Tha Sung. Tel: 08 1953 9866.

**Phaiphan**, 391 Si Uthai Road. Tel: 0 5651 1660.  
It is open from 7.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. (preserved  
fruits, bakery, bread with Thai custard, Thai  
desserts).

**Mae Puailang 1**, 75 Maharat Road, Tel: 0 5651  
1775. It is open from 6.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. (fish  
and shrimp rice crisp, rice cracker with dried



shredded pork or sesame, fried pork crackling and fish skin).

**Mit Chang Thin**, 2/5 Mu 3, Tambon Nong Phai Baen. Tel: 0 5652 4035, 08 9856 3585.

**Mae Puailang 2**, 49/10-11 Rak Kan Di Road, in front of the Uthai Thani Hospital. Tel: 0 5651 3975. It is open from 7.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. (fish and shrimp rice crisp, rice cracker with dried shredded pork or sesame, fried pork crackling and fish skin).

**Mo Wirat (Sa Min heart tonic)**, 44 Maharat Road (Chinese herbal medicine). Tel: 0 5651 1389.

**So Chat Uthai**, 127 Toep Siri Road, Tambon Uthai Mai. Tel: 0 5657 1427. It is open from 6.00 a.m. – 7.30 p.m. (fish rice crisp, fried pork crackling and fish skin, and other provincial souvenirs).

**Pieak Bovy** 22 Mu 5 Tambon Sakae Krang Tel: 08 1973 8983, 08 1740 2755.

**Busawadee** 177 Sunthon Sathit Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, open 9.00 a.m.-9.00 p.m. (OTOP products)

## **Manufacturers and Distributors of Woven Cloth**

### **Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani**

**Ran Mai Kaem Fai**, 50/3 Rak Kan Di Road. Tel: 0 5652 4303. (Products are silk, cotton, plain cloth, Chok cloth, Cannabis fibre cloth and ready-made clothes)

### **Amphoe Nong Khayang**

**Dong Khwang Tin Chok Weaving Group**, Mu 1 (Wat Dong Khwang), Ban Dong Khwang. Tel: 0 5659 7093 (Product is Chok cloth).

**Ban Huai Rop Weaving Group**, 37 Mu 2, Ban

Huai Rop, Tambon Huai Rop. Tel: 08 6213 4210. (Mudmi and artificial silk cloth).

**Ruam Chai Phatthana Group**, Mu 4, Tambon Nong Phai. (plain cloth and artificial silk).

**Tambon Huai Rop Vocational Training Centre**, Mu 3, Tambon Huai Rop. (artificial silk) Tel: 0 5651 3234.

### **Amphoe Thap Than**

**Ban Khok Mo Weaving Group**, 4/1 Mu 2, Ban Khok Mo, Tambon Khok Mo. Tel: 0 5651 3448, 08 1379 1200. (Products are silk with ancient patterns and Mudmi).

**Khok Mo Farmer's Wife Weaving Group**, Mu 2, Ban Khok Mo. Tel: 0 5651 3189, 08 9906 9929, 08 1887 6740. (Mudmi and plain cloth).

### **Amphoe Ban Rai**

**Ban Thap Khlai Weaving Group**, 39 Mu 2, Ban Thap Khlai, Tambon Thap Luang. (Product is Chok cloth). Tel: 08 9679 7234.

**Ban Thap Luang Weaving Group**, 3 Mu 1, Ban Thap Luang, Tambon Thap Luang. Tel: 0 5654 6128. (Chok, cotton, silk, blanket and bedspread).

**Ban Na Ta Pho Weaving Group**, 29 Mu 3, Ban Na Ta Pho, Tambon Ban Bueng. Tel: 08 1971 0521, 08 1953 2372. (cotton with ancient patterns, Mudmi cotton, silk, Khit, and Chok).

**Ban Noen Khiri Weaving Group**, 36/1 Mu 10, Tambon Thap Luang. Tel: 0 5654 2460, 0 5654 6158.

**Phaichit Weaving Group**, 29 Mu 3, Ban Na Ta Pho, Tambon Ban Bueng. Tel: 08 1971 0521, 08 1953 2372, 08 1972 4341. (Chok cloth).

***Pha Thang Farmer's Wife Weaving Group***, 32 Mu 2, Ban Pha Thang, Tambon Huai Haeng. Tel: 0 5653 9157. (Chok and cotton).

***Si Nin Weaving Group***, 73 Mu 1, Tambon Ban Bueng. Tel: 0 5654 6125, 08 1785 6070. (Chok, silk, shawl, bedspread, loincloth).

***Ban Phun Suk Weaving Group***, 86/1 Mu 2, Tambon Ban Bueng. Tel: 0 5653 9412.

## INTERESTING ACTIVITIES

### Agro-tourism

***Yat Nam Fa Vineyard***, 192 Mu 5, Tambon Hu Chang, Amphoe Ban Rai. Drive along the Uthai Thani - Ban Rai route, about 42 km. from the city until seeing the direction sign. Turn left and go on for 5 km. to a laterite road, passing sugarcane and cassava root fields before arriving at the vineyard, where Cardinal (black grapes), White Malacca (green grapes), and seedless grapes are grown. They use bio-chemical treatment, focusing on 90% of organic planting. Scientific chemicals will be used only during the period when a disease that cannot be naturally controlled appears. There is a distribution of grape propagation branches and advisors for visitors who are interested in planting grapes. For further information, please call Tel: 0 5651 1516, 0 5652 0733-4.

## EXAMPLES OF TOUR PROGRAMMES

Geographically, most of Uthai Thani is lush mountainous and forested area well recognised by local conservationists although the province is barely known to foreign visitors. Its Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the only sanctu-

ary in the country awarded this international recognition status at the moment.

### Day 1

#### Morning

- Start at the Local Historical and Cultural Museum to learn about Uthai Thani's story and see skeletons of pre-historical humans, among others.
- Take a boat tour of Sakae Krang River, the province's main lifeline, seeing people living on their rafting homes.
- Climb Khao Sakae Krang (by car or use stairs at the temple court of Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri) from where the best view of the town could be seen.

#### Afternoon

- After a lunch of local signature dishes (mostly of fish from Sakae Krang River), leave town for Thung Yai Naresuan – Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The best time to visit is during the cool season.
- Overnight at the sanctuary.

### Day 2

#### Morning

- Do the trekking of the famous Khao Hin Daeng Nature Study Route, a 4-hour trip for true nature lovers. A lot of birds are to be expected after December.

#### Afternoon

- On the way back, visit the local weaving village of Ban Rai to see their works or buy their naturally dyed cotton products, visiting their ancient cloth museum. Also stop by Ban Samo Thong

Hot Spring for a mineral bath.

## Day 1

- Depart from Bangkok to Uthai Thani
- Climb up Khao Sakae Krang to admire the beautiful sight of Uthai Thani, pay respect to the footprint of Lord Buddha and hit the 100 year-old bell, and pay homage to the memorial statue of Somdet Phra Pathom Borom Maha Chanoknat, King Rama I's Royal Father.
- Have lunch on the boat, admiring the way of the people's life on the raft-houses along both sides of the Sakae Krang River.
- Get off the boat at Wat Tha Sung to pay respect to Luangpho Ruesi Ling Dam and admire the beautiful glass wihan.
- Travel to Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary in Amphoe Lan Sak.
- Pay respect to the statue of Seub Nakhasathien, the hero of environmental conservation. Listen to the lecture and see the slides of rarely-found wildlife before having dinner.
- Stay overnight.

## Day 2

- Breathe the fresh air in the morning, and try forest trekking along the nature study route guided by an official from the wildlife sanctuary.
- Visit the organic vineyard (Rai Yat Nam Fa), Amphoe Ban Rai.

- See the woven clothes with ancient patterns at Ban Na Ta Pho, Ban Phatang in Amphoe Ban Rai.
- Travel back to Bangkok by taking Highway 333, Amphoe Ban Rai-Amphoe Dan Chang in Suphan Buri.

## FACILITIES IN UTHAI THANI

### Accommodations

*(The room rates mentioned in this brochure may be changed. Please ask for current information from each hotel when making reservation.)*

### Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani

**333 House** (๓๓๓ เฮ้าส์) 1/1-12 Phahonyothin Road, Tambon Sakaekrang, (Tel: 0 5652 4883), 40 rooms: 200-450 baht

**Amorn Suk 1** (อมรสุก ๑) 71/23 Rakkandi Road, Tambon Uthai Mai (opposite to Uthai Thani Hospital), (Tel: 0 5651 1693, Fax: 0 5652 4339), 37 rooms: 150-400 baht

**Amorn Suk 2** (อมรสุก ๒) 40/12 Manirat Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, (Tel: 0 5651 2164), 22 rooms: 150-350 baht

**Baan Suan Chalum Resort** (บ้านสวนชลัมรีสอร์ท) 142 Mu 8 Tambon Nam Song, (Tel: 08 6213 7514, 08 1038 1812), www.baansuanchalum.com, E-mail: baansuanchalum@yahoo.com, 30 rooms: 1,200-2,500 baht

**Ban Chao Phraya** (บ้านเจ้าพระยา) 72/5 Tambon Ko Thepho (Tel: 08 1909 1965), 1,200-1,800 baht

**Ban Japong Homestay** (บ้านจำพงษ์ โฮมสเตย์) 21 Mu 5 Tambon Ko Thepho (Tel: 0 5698 0122, 08 6591 0419), 2 homes: 350 baht

**Huai Kha Khaeng Chet Sin** (ห้วยขาแข้งเขษุม  
ศิลป์) 26 Phahonyothin Road Tambon Uthai Mai,  
(Tel: 0 5652 4833-5, 0 5651 1263, Fax: 0 5651  
1264), 120 rooms: 750-2,500 baht

**Iyara Park Hotel and Resort** (ไอยรา ปาร์ค  
ไฮเต็ล แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 55 Mu 4 Tambon Hat  
Thanong on Highway No. 333, 8 km. before  
reaching the city, (Tel: 0 5651 6333, Fax: 0 5651  
6222, Bangkok Office Tel: 0 2259 8511-6, Fax:  
0 2259 8510), www.iyarapark.com, E-mail:  
reservation@iyarapark.com, 358 rooms: 5,600-  
45,000 baht, 32 bungalows: 3,500-5,300 baht

**Paya Mai Resort** (พญาไม้ รีสอร์ท) 34-36 Mu 1  
Sakaekrang Road, Tambon Sakaekrang, (Tel:  
0 5657 1767, 08 1674 1992), www.payamai  
resort.com, 20 rooms: 800-1,600 baht

**Rim Nathee Homestay** (ริมที่ โสมสเดย์) 60  
Mu 5 Ban Rong Namkhaeng, Tambon Thasung  
(Tel: 08 1475 9921, 08 1888 6792), 8 homes:  
200-2,000 baht

**Phibun Suk** (พิบูลย์สุข) 336 Si Uthai Road,  
Tambon Uthai Mai, (Tel: 0 5651 1048, 0 5651  
1647, Fax: 0 5651 1003), 79 rooms: 190-600 baht

**River Marina Resort** (ริเวอร์ มารีน่า รีสอร์ท) 110  
Mu 4 Ko The Pho, Tambon Tha Sung, (Tel: 0 5650  
2647, 08 9433 7559), www.rivermarinaresort.  
com, E-mail: rivermarina@thailand.com, 11  
rooms: 600-1,300 baht

**Uthai River Lake** (อุทัย ริเวอร์ เลค) 8 Mu 5  
Tambon Ko The Pho, (Tel: 0 5698 0044-5, 08  
9162 8188, 08 1886 5793), www.uthairiverlake.  
com, 20 rooms: 1,700-2,800 baht

**Wan Phen Homestay** (วันเพ็ญ โสมสเดย์) Ko  
The Pho-Tha Sung Road, (Tel: 08 1953 9866), 5  
rooms: 200 baht/person

## Amphoe Ban Rai

**Avatar Miracle** (อวตาร มิวราเคิล) 454 Mu 3  
Tambon Ban Rai, (Tel: 0 5659 6164, Fax: 0 5659  
6109 Bangkok Office Tel: 0 2513 6171, Fax:  
0 2513 6188), www.avatarsuites.com, www.  
avataraange.com, 64 rooms: 5,300-18,000 baht

**Huai Kha Kaeng Country Home Resort**  
(ห้วยขาแข้งคันทรีโฮม รีสอร์ท) 102 Mu 8 Ban Rai Mai,  
Tambon Kok Kwai, (Tel: 08 1973 1213, 08 1330  
3260, 08 1867 4967 Bangkok Office Tel: 0 2373  
6351, 0 2373 6038), www.countryhomeresort.  
com, 50 rooms: 800-1,700 baht

**Huay Pa Pok Resort** (ห้วยป่าปก รีสอร์ท) 149  
Mu 3 Tambon Ban Rai, (Tel: 0 5659 6150-3,  
0 5659 6000-1, 08 1953 1532, Fax: 0 5659 6152),  
www.huay-pa-pok.com, www.huaypapak.  
com, 85 rooms: 1,200-5,200 baht

**Pang Naresuan Resort** (ปางนเรศวร รีสอร์ท)  
113 Mu 3 Ban Ilup-Kho Phu Toei Road, Tambon  
Ban Rai, (Tel: 0 5657 9150, 08 1986 4099 Bangkok  
Office Tel: 0 2561 1417, 0 2579 1295), 12 rooms:  
500-800 baht

**Phu Keang Duan** (ภูเคียงเดื่อน) 259 Mu 1  
Tambon Ban Rai (Tel: 08 1707 4851), http://  
phukeangduan.9nha.com, 3 houses, 9 rooms;  
350-700 baht

**Phu Saeng Thong Resort** (ภูแสงทอง รีสอร์ท)  
199 Mu 8 Tambon Ban Rai (Tel: 0 5658 6309 Fax:  
0 5658 6310), www.phusaengthong.com, 49  
houses: 1,500-6,000 baht

**Wattana Guesthouse** (วัดนา เกสต์เฮาส์) 99  
Mu 1 Tambon Ban Rai (Tel: 0 5653 0942, 0 5653  
9311), 21 rooms: 280-380 baht

## Amphoe Nong Chang

**Cheng Resort** (เฉ่ง รีสอร์ท) 277 Mu 5 Tambon



Nong Chang (Tel: 0 5652 1396, 08 1745 9552),  
http://chengresort.9nha.com, 9 rooms: 350-  
450 baht

**Si Wichit Resort** (ศรีวิจิตร รีสอร์ท) 116/3 Mu 1  
Tambon Nong Suang, (Tel: 0 5652 1493-4), 26  
rooms: 350-400 baht

## Amphoe Lan Sak

**Ban Jiradit** (บ้านจิระดิษฐ์) 188/2 Mu 2 Tambon  
Lan Sak (Tel: 0 5652 2098), 15 rooms: 300-800  
baht

**Lan Sak Resort** (ลานสัก รีสอร์ท) 26 Mu 9  
Tambon Tung Na Ngam, (Tel: 0 5653 7168), 12  
rooms: 500-700 baht

**Hup Pa Tat Homestay** (หุบป่าตาด โฮมสเตย์) 42/1 Mu 3 Tambon Tung Na Ngam, (Tel: 08 1887  
6717, 08 1886 3841), 7 rooms: 300 baht/ person

**Nawarat Homestay** (นาวรัตน์ โฮมสเตย์) 313/1  
Tambon Thung Na Ngam, (Tel: 08 7003 4571), 1  
house for 50 persons: 100 baht/ person

**Son Thaya** (สนธยา บ้านพัก) 21 Mu 4 Tambon  
Thung Na-Ngam (Tel: 0 5698 9079), 6 rooms:  
300-600 baht

## Restaurants

### Amphoe Mueang Uthai Thani

**Ban Bua Luang** (ร้านอาหารบ้านบัวหลวง) 22  
Sunthon Sathit, near the clock tower, Tel: 0 5652  
5047 (10.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.)

**Kangsadan** (กังสดาล) 139 Narong Withi Road,  
Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651 4533 (10.00 a.m.-  
10.00 p.m.)

**Keson Ahan Isan** (เกษตรอาหารอีสาน) 26/17-19  
Rak Kan Di Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651  
2245, 08 1475 0266 (11.00 a.m.-8.00 p.m.)

**Khrua Pepsi** (ครัวเป๊ปซี่) 113 Mu 2 Manorom-

Uthai Road at Km.8, Tambon Tha Sung, Tel:  
0 5650 2599, 08 7203 8531 (10.00 a.m.-9.00 p.m.)

**Khrua Sakae Krang** (ครัวสะแกกรัง) 20/1 Sakae  
Krang Ok Road, Tambon Nam Seum, Tel: 0 5652  
0127-8, Fax: 0 5652 0128 (10.00 a.m.-9.00 p.m.)

**Khrua Nong Sai** (ครัวน้องทราย) 87/1 Mu 1  
Tambon Ko Thepho Tel: 0 5698 0089 (10.00  
a.m.-8.00 p.m.)

**Khrua Kung Sampao** (ครัวคุ้งสำเภา) Tel:  
08 6678 7850 (10.00 a.m.-9.00 p.m.)

**Ko Ti Khao Man Kai** (โกตีข้าวมันไก่) 95 Tha  
Chang Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651  
2013, 08 1534 7739 (6.00 a.m.-2.30 p.m.)

**Lam Yai Ice Cream** (ลำไยไอศกรีม) 6 Maharat  
Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651 1746,  
08 1888 8970

**Mum Sabai** (มุมนสบาย) 417/47 Si Uthai Road,  
Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651 1104, 08 1888  
8970 (10.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.)

**Nok Kwai Tiao Kai Mu Tun** (โนนก๊วยเตี่ยว  
ไก่ หมูตุ๋น) 50 Soi Thai Military Bank, Trok Rong  
Ya, Rat Uthit Road, Tel: 0 5651 2843 (9.00 a.m.-  
3.00 p.m.)

**Nok Noi** (นกน้อย) 9/4 Si Uthai Road, Tambon  
Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651 1952 (10.00 a.m.-10.00  
p.m.)

**Pa Sam Ran** (ป่าสำราญ) 42/1 Mu 4 Ban Tha  
Sung, Tambon The Pho, Tel: 0 5698 0085 (10.00  
a.m.-9.00 p.m.)

**Phrom Tha Sung** (พรหมท่าซุง) (opposite to  
Wat Tha Sung) 72 Mu 1 Uthai-Manorom Road,  
Tambon Nam Suem, Tel: 0 5650 2585, 0 5650  
2595, 08 9703 8530

**Ruean Phae Pra Mong** (เรือนแพประมง) 25  
Phae Khlong Sakae Krang, Tel: 0 5651 1996

(9.00 a.m.-9.30 p.m.)

**Tui Pla Raet** (ตุ้ยปลาแรด) 67-68 Tha Chang Road, Tambon Uthai Mai, Tel: 0 5651 2375 (8.00 a.m.-8.00 p.m.)

### **Amphoe Ban Rai**

**Suan Ahan Khrua Anan** (สวนอาหารครัวอานันต์) 310 Mu 1 Tambon Ban Rai, Tel: 0 5653 9035, 0 5655 6282 (10.00 a.m.-9.30 p.m.)

### **Amphoe Thap Than**

**Khrua Urai** (ครัวอุไร) 1/14 Mu 1 Thap Than Nong Chang Road, Tambon Thap Than, Tel:

0 5654 1214 (7.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.)

### **Amphoe Sawang Arom**

**Ran Jae Chuk** (ร้านเจ๊จุก) 21/5 Mu 1 Thamma Sunthon Road, in front of Fire Station, Tel: 0 5659 9048, 08 1972 0453

### **Amphoe Lan Sak**

**Khrua Ban Khun** (ครัวบ้านคุณ) 370 Mu 2 (9.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.)

**Taen Phochana** (แต่นโภชนา) 362 Mu 2 Nong Chang-Lan Sak Road, 200 meters far from Lan Sak Hospital (9.00 a.m.-10.00 p.m.)



## USEFUL CALLS

Provincial Public Relations

Tel: 0 5652 0826, 0 5651 1915

Provincial Office

Tel: 0 5652 0737, 0 5651 1063

District Office

Tel: 0 5651 1062

Uthai Thani Hospital

Tel: 0 5652 4455-8, 0 5651 1081

Police Station

Tel: 0 5651 1055, 0 5652 0073, 0 5652 0296,  
0 5651 1275

Post Office

Tel: 0 5651 1097, 0 5651 1593

Highway Police

Tel: 1193

Tourist Police

Tel: 1155, 0 5623 3073, 0 5688 1515

Meteorological Department

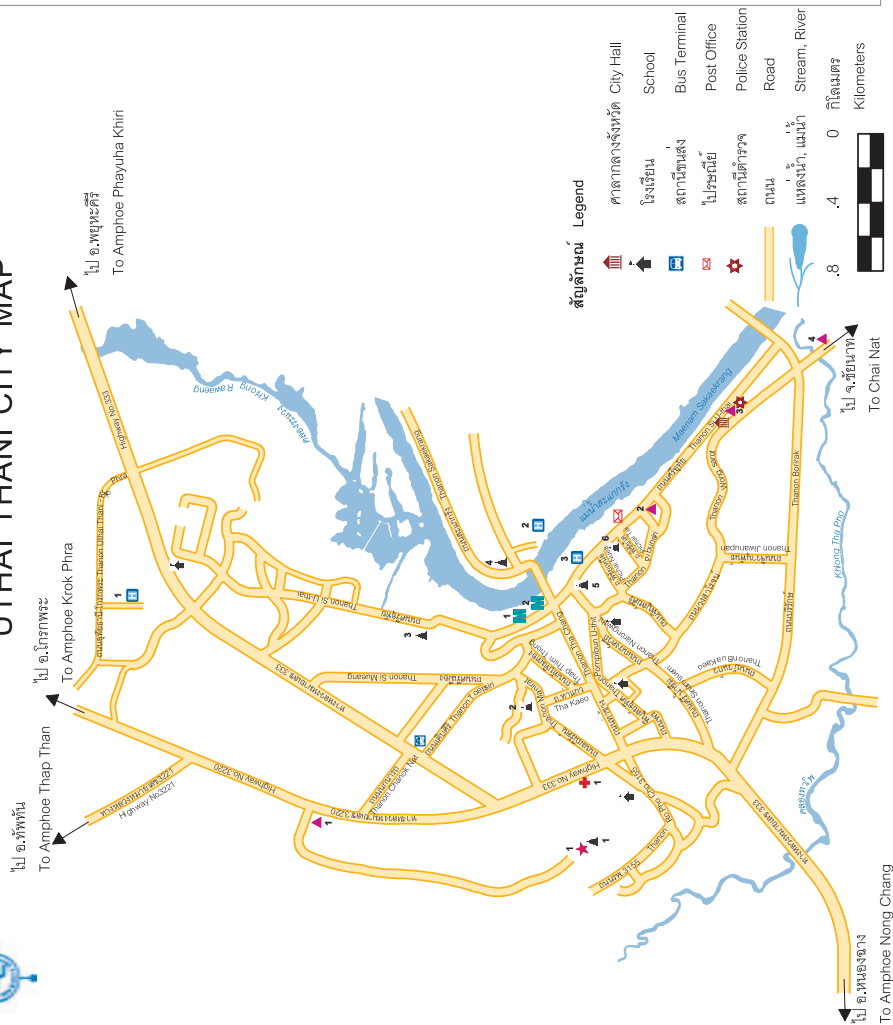
Tel: 1182





# แผนที่ตัวเมืองอุทัยธานี

## UTHAI THANI CITY MAP



### โรงแรม Hotel

- 1 โรงแรม 333 เฮาส์ 333 House Hotel
- 2 พญาไม้อู่ออท์ Payammal Resort
- 3 โรงแรมพิบูลย์สุข Phibun Suk Hotel

### วัด Temple (Wat)

- 1 วัดสังกัสรัตนคีรี Wat Sangkat Rattanakhiri
- 2 วัดมณีเสถียรกปิฏฐาราม Wat Mani Sahit Kapittharam
- 3 วัดธรรมโศภิต Wat Thammasopit
- 4 วัดอุโปสถาราม Wat Uposatharam
- 5 วัดธรรมโศภิต หรือวัดโรงโค
- 6 Wat Thammakhosok or Wat Rong Kho
- 7 วัดพิชัยอนุกรม Wat Pichaiyuranaram

### โรงพยาบาล Hospital

- 1 โรงพยาบาลอุทัยธานี Uthai Thani Hospital

### ตลาด Market

- 1 ตลาดสดเทศบาล 2 Thetsaban 2 Market
- 2 ตลาดเทศบาลเมืองอุทัยธานี Thetsaban Uthai Thani Market

### สถานที่สำคัญ Place of Interest

- 1 สนามกีฬาจังหวัดอุทัยธานี Uthai Thani Stadium
- 2 สำนักงานเทศบาลเมืองอุทัยธานี Uthai Thani Municipality Office
- 3 ศาลจังหวัดอุทัยธานี Uthai Thani Law Court
- 4 วิทยาลัยเทคนิคอุทัยธานี Uthai Thani Technical Collegee

### สถานที่ท่องเที่ยว Tourist Attraction

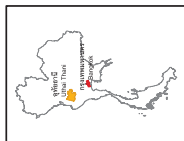
- 1 เขาสะแกกรัง Khao Sakae Krang



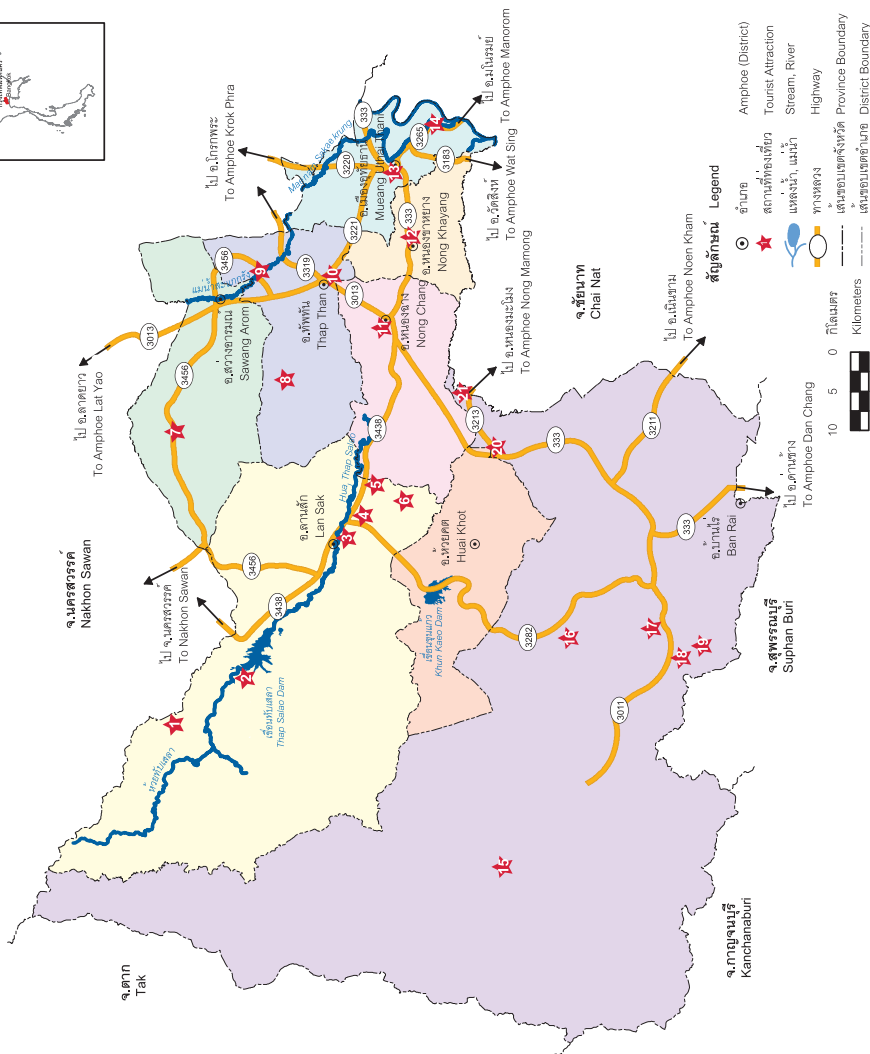


# แผนที่ท่องเที่ยวจังหวัดอุทัยธานี

## UTHAI THANI TOURIST MAP



สถานที่ท่องเที่ยว	Tourist Attraction
1 ถ้ำเขตรองชัย	Tham Khao Khong Chai
2 เขื่อนกั้นเสลา	Thap Salao Dam
3 เขตรักษาพันธุ์สัตว์ป่าห้วยขาแข้ง	Khao Phraya Phai Ruea
4 สวนป่าห้วยมะปราง	Huai Rabam Forest Garden
5 เขาลำดวน	Khao Plara
6 หุบป่าตาด	Hup Pa Tat
7 เมืองโบราณเมืองตาก	Mueang Boran Bueng Khok Chang
8 เขาน้ำร้อน	Khao Pathawi
9 แหล่งท่องเที่ยวพื้นเมืองบ้านโคกหม้อ	Ban Khok Mo's Local Weaving Centre
10 วัดที่พันวัดนาราม	Wat Thap Than Wathannaram
11 วัดหนองจุฬา	Wat Nong Khun Chat
12 วัดหนองพลวง	Wat Nong Phluang
13 เขาสะแกกรัง	Khao Sakae Krang
14 วัดจันทาราม หรือวัดท่าสูง	Wat Chantharam or Wat Tha Sung
15 เขตรักษาพันธุ์สัตว์ป่าทุ่งใหญ่นเรศวร-ห้วยขาแข้ง	Thung Yai Naresuan Wildlife Sanctuary
16 น้ำตกไข่มุกร หรือ น้ำตกหินลาด	Cyber Waterfall or Namtok Hin Lat
17 น้ำตกผาหมื่น	Namtok Pha Rom Yen
18 บ่อน้ำร้อนคลองจระเข้	Ban Mai Khlong Ang Wa
19 วัดลำเขาวง	Wat Tham Khao Wong
20 วัดเขาตะพาน	Wat Tham Khao Taphan
21 วัดเขาวงพรมมัจฉา	Wat Khao Wong Phrommachan



## **TAT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTERS**

### ***TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND***

#### ***HEAD OFFICE***

1600 Phetchaburi Road., Makkasan

Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel: 0 2250 5500

Fax: 0 2250 5511

E-mail: [info@tat.or.th](mailto:info@tat.or.th)

Website: [www.tourismthailand.org](http://www.tourismthailand.org)

#### ***Ministry of Tourism and Sports***

4 Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10100

8.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m. everyday

#### ***TAT UTHAI THANI***

28/5 Rak Kan Di Road, Tambon Uthai Mai,

Amphoe Mueang, Uthai Thani 61000

Tel: 0 5651 4651-2 Fax: 0 5651 4650

[www.tourismthailand.org/uthaithani](http://www.tourismthailand.org/uthaithani)

E-mail: [tatuthai@tat.or.th](mailto:tatuthai@tat.or.th)

Areas of Responsibility: Uthai Thani and Nakhon Sawan



*Wat Uposatharam*

**1672**  
TOURIST HOTLINE

**08.00-20.00 hrs. Everyday**

Tourist information by fax available 24 hrs.

E-mail: [info@tat.or.th](mailto:info@tat.or.th)

Website: [www.tourismthailand.org](http://www.tourismthailand.org)



[www.tourismthailand.org](http://www.tourismthailand.org)



**Information by:** TAT Uthai Thani

Tourist Information Division (Tel. 0 2250 5500 ext. 2141-5)

**Designed & Printed by:** Promotional Material Production Division,  
Marketing Services Department.

The contents of this publication are subject to change without notice.

2015 Copyright. No commercial reprinting of this material allowed.

July 2015